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SUBJECT: DEMARCHE ON OAS SOCIAL CHARTER (PERU)

REF: STATE 39428

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1. (U) Poloff presented the demarche on the OAS Social Charter (Reftel) to Julio Garro, the Foreign Ministry's Assistant Secretary for Multilateral and Security Affairs on 3/8, Deputy Director for Multilateral Affairs Carlos Chocano, and Director of Social Affairs Maria Eugenia Echeverria were also present.

2. (SBU) Garro did not provide a substantive response to our points. He was sympathetic to our concerns that the OAS produce a document that would be realistic and not filled with pie-in-the-sky promises. All three Peruvian officials were confident that the OAS would not abandon its historical consensus mechanism in decision-making for this issue. Garro added that he thought it would be helpful if the USG could provide written examples of the language we would like to see included in an OAS Social Charter. He also noted that President Franklin Roosevelt, in his Declaration of the Four Freedoms during World War II, had cited "Freedom from Want" as a key human right, and that this sentiment motivated many OAS members to look with favor on the idea of a Social Charter.

3. (SBU) With respect to alternate chairs for the Social Charter Working Group, Garro speculated that Brazil would be a better standard-bearer than Venezuela.

STRUBLE